COURTESY COPY

OF THE

ARTICLE 19

AMENDMENT

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 26 May 2005 (26.05.2005)
The original claim 1 unchanged, 2 and 3 amended, 4 subdivided into amended 4 and 5, 5-9 replaced by amended 6-10.
(total 2 pages)]

What is claimed is:

1. A focusing channel device which focuses fluid containing micro particles to flow through only a predetermined area so that the micro particles flow in a line,

the focusing channel device comprising a nozzle formed by left wall and right wall each of which comprises an inclination surface, wherein

the cross sectional area of the nozzle in vertical direction decreases from the entrance of the nozzle toward the exit of the nozzle, and

the shape of cross sectional view of the channel in horizontal direction is asymmetric for the central line in the length direction.

2. The channel device according to Claim 1, wherein the inclination surface of one of the left or right wall which forms the nozzle is closer to the entrance of the channel device than the inclination surface of the other wall.

3. The channel device according to Claim 2, wherein the inclination surface of one of the left or right wall is closer to the entrance of the channel device than the inclination surface of the other wall by a diameter of the micro particle.

4. The channel device according to Claim 1, wherein the left and right walls are fixed walls formed by solid material.

5. The channel device according to Claim 1, wherein the left and right walls are fluid walls formed by flow of other fluids.

6. The channel device according to Claim 1, wherein upper wall and lower bottom wall are formed parallel, and are fixed walls.

7. The channel device according to Claim 1, wherein the height of the nozzle of the channel is decreasing from the entrance of the nozzle toward the exit of the nozzle by the inclination surfaces of the upper wall and lower bottom wall, and the inclination surfaces of the upper wall and lower bottom walls are formed asymmetrically.

8. The channel device according to Claim 1, wherein the height of the channel is not less than the diameter of the micro particle.

9. The channel device according to Claim 1, wherein the micro particle is bead, cell or bacteria.

10. A micro particle analysis device comprising:

a focusing channel device according to one of Claims 1 to 9;

a photographing means for irradiating light on the micro particles flowing in a line in the focusing channel device and photographing the micro particles; and

an image analysis means for analyzing the photographed image of the micro particles.